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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>		Application Number <b>09/938,452</b>
		Filing Date <b>August 24, 2001</b>
		First Named Inventor <b>Figiel et al.</b>
		Art Unit <b>1714</b>
		Examiner Name <b>J.D. Anthony</b>
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number <b>1944.NVF</b>	

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
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Remarks		

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT**

Firm or Individual name	Charles W. Almer
Signature	<i>Charles W. Almer</i>
Date	<i>FEB 4 2004</i>

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Appl. No. : 09/938,452  
Applicant : Edmund W. Figiel  
Filed : August 24, 2001  
Group Art Unit : 1714  
Examiner : Joseph David Anthony  
Docket No. : 1944.NVF

Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Sir,

In response to the Office Action of October 7, 2003, for which the time to respond has been extended to February 7, 2004 by the Petition for Extension of Time filed herewith, Applicants respectfully

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.